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LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I enclose herewith the text of a statement issued today by the Prime Minister of India. I would be grateful if you could have it circulated immediately as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) C. R. GHAREKHAN

Annex

Statement issued on 17 January 1991 by the Prime Minister of India

I am deeply distressed that hostilities have broken out in the Gulf, in spite of all the efforts made to prevent them. The longer the war lasts, the higher will be the toll in terms of human life and suffering.

I would like to appeal to President Saddam Hussein to announce the commencement of immediate withdrawal from Kuwait, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions. This should be followed by a cessation of hostilities and the resumption of efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. The modalities for it can be worked out by the United Nations Security Council.

I have a message from President Gorbachev about a Soviet initiative in this regard, and we will join them in a common endeavour for peace. We will co-operate actively within the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and with all like-minded countries in these joint efforts.